

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/723,481

Examiner

Mark A. Deuble

Applicant(s)

JONES, WILLIAM DEVERE

Art Unit

3651

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment of June 24, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6 and 9-22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Craig W. Barber on September 23, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1, lines 6-7, delete the phrase "having a U shaped frame connected to and supported by and below the support and guide".

Claim 1, line 9, delete the phrase "designed to be".

Claim 1, line 15, after the word " system" insert the phrase -- wherein each said conveyor belt support and guide mount includes an upper yoke portion, said upper yoke portion having a width dimension substantially the same as the distance between the pair of generally parallel side walls of a conveyor frame, said yoke portion connected to and supported by such a pair of generally parallel side walls of a conveyor frame, and wherein each said conveyor belt support and guide mount includes a U-shaped frame connected to and supported by and below said upper yoke portion --.

Cancel claim 7.

Claim 12, lines 6-8, after the word frame, delete the phrase ", the support and guide having a U shaped frame connected to and supported by and below the support and guide".

Claim 12, line 10, after the word frame, insert the phrase -- wherein said conveyor belt support and guide includes an upper yoke portion, said upper yoke portion having a width dimension substantially the same as the distance between the pair of generally parallel side walls of a conveyor frame, said yoke portion connected to and supported by such a pair of generally parallel side walls of a conveyor frame, and wherein each said conveyor belt support and guide includes a U-shaped frame connected to and supported by and below said upper yoke portion--.

Claim 14, lines 5-6; delete the phrase “, the support and guide having a U-shaped frame connected to and supported by and below the support and guide”.

Claim 14, line 13, after the word “system”, insert the phrase -- wherein each said conveyor belt support and guide mount includes an upper yoke portion, said upper yoke portion having a width dimension substantially the same as the distance between the pair of generally parallel side walls of a conveyor frame, said yoke portion connected to and supported by such a pair of generally parallel side walls of a conveyor frame, and wherein each said conveyor belt support and guide mount includes a U-shaped frame connected to and supported by and below said upper yoke portion --.

2. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

While Esler shows a loop belt conveyor system with parallel side walls, a loop belt conveyor belt support and guide with a smooth non-moving upper surface, and a plurality of conveyor belt support and guide mounts having an upper yoke portion with a width dimension substantially the same as the distance between the pair generally parallel side walls of the conveyor frame, it does not include a conveyor belt support and guide mount with a U-shaped frame connected to and supported by and below said upper yoke portion.

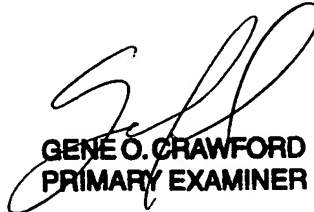
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark A. Deuble whose telephone number is (571) 272-6912. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday except for alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gene O. Crawford can be reached on (571) 272-6911. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

md



GENE O. CRAWFORD
PRIMARY EXAMINER